



ALISSA COPE

Alissa Cope is a Principal Environmental Planner and Habitat Restoration Expert with 23 years of experience in the industry here in Southern California. She earned a BA in Environmental Science from the University of California-Riverside.

Today she will share with us her experience of Goat Grazing for Wildland Management, including grazing here at the Irvine Ranch Conservancy in 2018 for purple needlegrass restoration. As planning moves forward for 2019 and beyond, Alissa will talk about the pros and cons of grazing as a natural approach in our toolkit for weed and fuel load management.

Sage Environmental Group owns an in-house herd that is used for weed control to suppress invasive and noxious plants, and to remove fire fuel load. This is unique for an environmental planning firm and an advantage to Land Managers who can rely on grazing activities that are planned and implemented from a scientific and regulatory compliance perspective in accordance with local conservation plans to prevent overgrazing.

In 2007, Ms. Cope founded Sage Environmental Group. Her company's projects involve habitat restoration (upland, riparian and wetland), vegetation management, integrated pest management, biological and cultural resources technical studies, CEQA/NEPA documentation, regulatory permitting and compliance for conservancy, open space, public works, water, transportation, and developer clients. She leads a group of senior wildlife biologists, restoration ecologists, arborists, environmental planners and regulatory permitting experts who support projects in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange counties.

Her wildlands management clients include the Irvine Ranch Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, Laguna Canyon Foundation, Natural Communities Coalition, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Los Angeles County Fire Department and CalFire.